



Maryland  
Department of  
the Environment

# Washington County Recycling

## What You Need to Know

### Coordinator/Staff

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### Waste Diversion Rate

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- ▶ For calendar year 2015, 53.20 % recycling rate + 0% source reduction credit = 53.20 % waste diversion rate.

### Residential Program

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#### *Curbside*

- ▶ Hagerstown, Williamsport, Boonsboro, Clear Spring, Smithsburg, Hancock, Keedysville, and Sharpsburg have curbside recycling.
- ▶ Residents outside municipalities may subscribe where offered by private haulers.

#### *Drop-off*

- ▶ There are four county drop-offs collecting aluminum and steel cans, glass containers, #1 thru #7 plastics, cardboard and mixed paper. Recycling permit is required for recycling at Convenience Centers and Forty West Landfill. Cost for permit is \$36 per year (July 1 – June 30).
- ▶ The Forty West Municipal Landfill collects aluminum and steel cans, glass containers, #1 thru #7 plastics, newspaper, cardboard, and magazines, rechargeable batteries, electronics, yard waste, used motor oil, used antifreeze, used vegetable oil, plastic bags, plastic shrink wrap, and auto tires.
- ▶ Tri-State Reuse Center handles construction and demolition material.

#### *Processing/Marketing*

- ▶ The County contracts with private companies for hauling, processing and marketing of recyclables from the drop-offs.
- ▶ Several private companies collect & process office paper.
- ▶ Maryland Paper is an end-user company that manufactures roofing paper from old corrugated cardboard and old newspapers.
- ▶ Clean Earth processes oil contaminated soils and used aggregate into roadbed materials.

#### *Municipalities*

- ▶ Hagerstown has curbside pick up for mixed paper, cardboard, cans, bottles, #1 thru #7 plastic, and yard debris.



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- ▶ Boonsboro, Clear Spring, Hagerstown, Keedysville, Sharpsburg, Smithsburg, and Williamsport have curbside recycling.
- ▶ Boonsboro chips their brush and has their own used motor oil collection site.

### *Yard Trimmings*

- ▶ The composting and mulching operation is located at the Forty West Landfill.
- ▶ Yard trimmings are banned from the Municipal Solid Waste Landfill.

### *Other Materials*

- ▶ The County contracts to recycle *scrap tires*. Two-thirds of the tires are used for civil engineering projects.
- ▶ *White goods* are collected at the landfill for recycling.
- ▶ *Telephone directories* are collected with newspaper.
- ▶ *Automotive batteries* are accepted at the Forty West Landfill as well as various retail battery distributors in the county.
- ▶ *Christmas trees* collected, chipped and used as mulch.
- ▶ A trailer is located at the Forty West Landfill for *cardboard* recycling.

### *Household Hazardous Waste*

- ▶ The County will have a HHW event as the budget permits.
- ▶ Drop-off for mercury at the Health Department. Call 240-313-3400 for details.
- ▶ Mercury thermostats that are intact can be taken to R.E. Michel Co., 915 S. Burhans Blvd., Hagerstown, MD 21740. 301-790-1620.

## Commercial Program

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- ▶ A recycling report form is sent to businesses each year.
- ▶ The County has also examined commercial loads dumped at the landfill to identify large sources of recyclables. The sources are contacted to try to convince these companies to recycle.

## Public Buildings

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- ▶ The County and the City of Hagerstown both have office paper recycling programs in their buildings.
- ▶ County and State prisons are recycling corrugated cardboard, paper, #1 and #2 plastic bottles, and tin cans.
- ▶ The County has a school recycling program in all 45 public schools for cardboard and mixed paper.



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### Procurement

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- ▶ Paper towels, Kraft envelopes, tissues, and letterhead purchased by the County have recycled content.

### Public Education & Outreach

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- ▶ County webpage contains recycling information
- ▶ The recycling coordinator works with local business and industry to promote commercial recycling.
- ▶ The recycling coordinator provides "Scenic Landfill Tours" to school groups and is a speaker to schools, organizations, groups, etc.

### Ordinances

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- ▶ Large commercial haulers are required to offer curbside recycling. Haulers must report how many tons of waste and recyclables they collect.

### Disposal

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- ▶ The landfill fee is \$52.00/ton, rubble tip fee is \$75.00/ton and yard debris is \$63.00/ton. There are special fees for sludge, tires, asbestos, and low-density waste.

### Financing/Budget

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- ▶ The County recycling drop-off program is funded by the sale of residential recycling permits.